

and rump bright golden chestnut broadly shaded with metallic purple and black. Tail black glossed with metallic purple, metallic green at base. Under tail-coverts olive black glossed with metallic green and purple. Feathers of the throat black streaked with chestnut. Abdomen blackish slightly glossed with purple. Feathers of vent black tipped with chestnut. Under side of wings dark brown with a silvery sheen. Irides yellow ochre. Bill light brown, darker at base. Legs pinkish white. Claws whitish.

In the specimen described, there are one or two irregular white blotches on the quills of the wings.

Total length (living bird) about 28 inches. Wing 9 inches. Bill from gape 1.0 inch. Tarsus 3.5 inches.

H. J. KELSALL.

A LARGE MIAS IN SINGAPORE.

There was in Singapore in November last one of the largest, if not the largest, Mias that has ever been captured. It was a male and probably of the species known as *Simia satyrus*, Linn., or the Mias Pappan of the Dyaks. He was captured in Borneo, and bought by a native dealer in Singapore, who eventually sold him to a German ship's captain, by whom he has been, it is believed, taken to Germany.

As far as I could judge, his height must have been close on 4 feet 5 inches. The cage in which he was confined was 4 feet 2 inches or thereabouts in height, and he could easily touch the top of it with his head without standing erect. His face was immensely broad, the cheeks being flattened out sideways into a sort of disc. The hair was long (about 4 inches) and thick and of a bright red colour and he had a distinct short pointed beard. The eyes dark brown.

WALLACE in the *Malay Archipelago*, chap. 4, discusses the size of the Mias at some length, and concludes by saying "on the whole, therefore, I think it will be allowed that up to this

time we have not the least reliable evidence of the existence of Orangs in Borneo more than 4 feet 2 inches high." This specimen, however, was distinctly bigger than this.

The method said to have been adopted by the natives in catching this huge animal was ingenious. They pounded up a quantity of chillies into a paste, of which they made pellets. These pellets they blew by means of their *sumpitans* into the eyes of the unfortunate Mias, or Orang Utan, who rubbed its eyes to try and ease the pain, and thus made them worse and soon became quite blinded for the time being, and was of course in frightful agony. The natives then proceeded to cut down the tree in which the wretched beast was, and when it was on the ground, not knowing which way to turn from its tormentors, they seized it by the neck by means of two long poles fastened together like a gigantic pair of scissors, and thus placed it in the cage prepared for it, which was then firmly closed.

H. J. K.

NOTE ON THE NEST AND EGGS OF *NYCTIORNIS AMICTA*.

On the 22nd August, 1891, when walking along a jungle track close to the limestone cave at Kota Glanggi (near Pulau Tawar, Pahang) a Malay who was just a short distance in front of me collecting plants for Mr. RIDLEY, called my attention to a hole in the ground, which he said was a "*Sarang Burong*," or bird's nest, and he said he was sure there were eggs in it, as he had seen a green bird about the size of a ground dove (*Chalcophaps indica*) come out of it. The hole was close to the path and in the side of a slight mound. The mouth was just large enough for me to get my hand into, and oval in shape. I could not reach the end of the tunnel, so I made the Malay cut away the ground, following the tunnel, and when he had got about 30 inches from the mouth he took out two white almost globular eggs. There